

U.P. RC&D Council Minutes
UP RC&D Council Teleconference Meeting – September 9, 2016

Board Members Present: Bill Rice-Dickinson CD, Jen Ricker-Iron CD, Rudy Johnson-Chippewa County Bd of Commissioners, Howard Haulotte-Delta Conservation District, Renee Leow-Marquette County Conservation District, Kristina Denison-Chippewa Luce Mackinac CD, and Darcy Rutkowski-UP RC&D Council Executive Director

Others Present: Bernie Lang-Menominee County Board of Commissioners, and John Malnar-Delta County Board of Commissioners

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Chairman Bill Rice.

Approval of Agenda: Malnar made a motion to accept the agenda, Leow supported the motion which passed.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Motion by Malnar to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 17, 2016, supported by Ricker. Motion passed.

Financial Reports: The Executive Director (ED) presented the Balance Sheet for August 31, 2016 and the Profit and Loss statement for the period January 1 through August 31, 2016. The combined balance in all accounts as of August 31, 2016 was \$73,254.94. The Profit and Loss Statement for the period January 1, 2014 through August 31, 2016 was also presented to provide a broader view of Council finances. ED reported that the 2015 990 has been filed after being provided to all board members for review. A motion was made by Malnar, supported by Haulotte to place the financial reports on file. Motion passed.

Business Items:

County Dues Update: ED reported that 8 counties paid dues so far in 2016 (no dues from Schoolcraft, Luce, Ontonagon, Dickinson, Mackinac, Baraga and Keweenaw). This has not changed since the previous meeting. County dues is one of the only sources of unrestricted funds available to the UPRC&D.

Staff Update: UP RC& D currently has 4 employees (ED, 1 FT Regional Project Manager, 1 HT Regional Project Manager, and 1 FT Invasive Species Program Manager (1-year grant-funded appointment). All employees are grant-funded. Several employees are still in the field most days, but when all are in the office, there is not sufficient space and we frequently utilize the conference room during those times. In addition to these employees, we have a full-time AmeriCorps member serving at our site.

2016 AmeriCorps Member Update: Casey Ford's term of service will end on November 4, 2016. She has done an excellent job, and really increased the exposure of the UP RC&D in the "invasive species community of the UP". The UP RC&D will not be hosting an AmeriCorps member during 2017 because our remaining grants don't lend themselves to the kind of experience that is desired for the members. However, the Marquette County Conservation District will have an AmeriCorps member serving in their office that will be assisting CUPCWMA.

Update on Grant Awards & Grant-funded Projects: ED provided a summary of all current grant-funded project activities. Highlights include – having finished spraying 650 acres of non-native phragmites along the Lake MI shoreline of Menominee and Delta Counties. This represents more than \$96,000 of treatment in those two counties which was paid for with grant funds. Additional spraying is now being conducted in Schoolcraft, Marquette, Alger, Luce, Iron and Dickinson Counties, and in the interior of Menominee County. We are collaborating with the grant-funded efforts of the Delta Conservation District on this project and they are spraying additional acres in Delta County. The Three Shores CISMA also has their own grant to treat phragmites in the Eastern UP. We will also be hosting the UP CISMA Summit on November 10, 2016 here in Marquette.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: Malnar made a motion to adjourn at 10:45 am, supported by Ricker. Motion passed.

Future 2016 Meeting Dates: December 2 Annual Meeting and Elections, (UP RC&D office), 10 am Eastern time.

I certify that these meeting minutes have been approved by a majority of the UP RC&D Council Board members:

Renee Leow, UP RC&D Council Secretary/Treasurer

Date